

Message Text

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16

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 PC-04 /148 W

----- 087811

R 170700 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2378

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PFOR SREF UG TZ XW

SUBJECT: AMIN GRANTS OBOTE AMNESTY

1. PRESIDENT AMIN HAS GRANTED AMNESTY TO FORMER PRESIDENT OBOTE AND ALL HIS FOLLOWERS. GENERAL ANNOUNCED DECISION TO ASSEMBLED SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS, CABINET AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT STATE HOUSE ENTEBBE APRIL 14. HE SAID HE HAD TAKEN DECISION AFTER CONSULTATION WITH DEFENSE COUNCIL AND CABINET AND HE " WOULD NEVER CHANGE IT." HE INVITED OBOTE TO RETURN TO UGANDA AS A " GOOD CITIZEN."

2. GENERAL THEN HANDED LETTER, ADDRESSED TO OBOTE GRANTING HIM AND HIS FOLLOWERS AMNESTY, TO SOMALI AMBASSADOR TO EAST AFRICA BASED NAIROBI, HASHI ABDULLA FARAH, FOR DELIVERY TO OBOTE. COPIES WERE ALSO SENT TO PRESIDENTS OF SOMALIA, TANZANIA, ZAIRE, RWANDA, SUDAN, KENYA, UNSYG, SEC GEN OF OAU, AND OBOTE' S PARENTS. LETTER, DATED APRIL 12, STATED OBOTE AND HIS FOLLOWERS ARE FREE TO RETURN TO UGANDA WITH FULL GUARANTEE OF PROTECTION FOR THEIR LIVES BY GOU.

3. AFTER LETTER READ ALOUD, AMIN STATED: " IF OBOTE WISHES
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TO COME BACK IT IS UP TO HIM BUT IF HE CONTINUES TO CARRY OUT PROPAGANDA AGAINST UGANDA THE BLAME WILL FALL SQUARELY ON HIS SHOULDERS." GENERAL THEN SAID HE HAD WASHED HIS HANDS OF THIS ISSUE. HE CONCLUDED BY WARNING OBOTE AGAINST ENGAGING IN ANY SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES IF HE RETURNS, AND SAID HE HAD SETTLED QUARREL IN AFRICAN MANNER, WHICH IS TO FIND SOLUTION AND THEN SIT DOWN TOGETHER TO EAT AND DRINK TOGETHER WITH A CLEAR HEART. VOICE OF UGANDA REPORTED THAT OBOTE'S PARENTS ARE WRITING TO THEIR SON TO APPEAL TO HIM TO ACCEPT AMNESTY AND RETURN TO UGANDA. FATHER COMPLAINED THAT HIS SON DOES NOT REPLY TO HIS LETTERS.

4. SEEMS EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL THAT OBOTE WILL DECIDE TO RETURN HERE TO ENLIST AS ORDINARY SOLDIER IN "ECONOMIC WAR." AMIN'S GESTURE IS OF COURSE DESIGNED TO UNDERCUT BASIS ON WHICH NYERERE HAS GRANTED OBOTE AND HIS FOLLOWERS ASYLUM AS POLITICAL REFUGEES.
KEELEY

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 17 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: AMIN GRANTS OBOTE AMNESTY
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DAR ES SALAAM
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